

# The Tremendous Tudors!

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June      10.30am – 4.30pm**  
**St Botolph's Priory, Colchester**

- A whole day packed full of family fun – absolutely FREE
- Many stalls inside and outside

Take a journey back in time this summer and explore the Tremendous Tudors in a fun day out packed full of FREE events. Set in the beautiful surroundings of St Botolph's Priory, off Queen Street in Colchester, this is a day out not to be missed!

Throughout the day visitors can enjoy an array of crafts, storytelling, live music, performances, stalls and much more – all inspired by the Tremendous Tudors. The fun kicks off at 11am with some live performances from Colchester History Alive and then throughout the day more than thirty other activities will be on offer – at no cost!

Visitors can see Tudor dancers and enjoy Tudor music, as well as enjoy guided walks throughout the day. Visitors can watch some fantastic re-enactments including combat and archery and visitors can even have a go at some jousting training!

There will be the chance to see a medieval style feast and to meet a medieval baker, plus discover more about medieval herb remedies. Visitors can try on Tudor costume, try brass rubbing and make a scroll inspired by the wives of Henry VIII.

Cllr Paul Smith, Culture and Diversity Portfolio Holder said “This event is part of a series of cultural and entertainment events that Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service and Colchester Borough Council is helping to stage throughout the summer. It is a free event, like many of the museum events, and I am sure it will be enjoyed by many families”

The event, hosted by Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service and St Botolph's Church, will also see a variety of cake stalls, plant stalls and bric-a-brac stalls, plus refreshments. Visitors should bring spending money as lots of tasty treats will be available including a hog roast, sandwiches and other refreshments.

The Tremendous Tudors is a FREE event, so visitors are urged to come along for a great day out, in the beautiful surroundings of the Augustinian St Botolph's Priory.

## Celebrate Ip-art at Christchurch Mansion!

This summer at Christchurch Mansion visitors can take part in all kinds of special events, including the chance to enjoy some very special activities celebrating Ip-art.

In partnership with the Royal Opera House visitors to Christchurch Mansion can discover more about Verdi's opera 'La Traviata' with an exhibition and trail from **until Sunday 27 September**.

The exhibition features a variety of costumes and accessories from the Royal Opera House and Covent Garden Opera Company productions of La Traviata. Visitors to the exhibition can see stunning bodices, dresses, skirts and much more in this beautiful display which shows items from productions dating back to 1948.

The trail, which runs alongside the exhibition, is suitable for all the family, and will help visitors discover the costumes and objects from the different productions which tell this beautiful story. The exhibition and trail can be enjoyed free of charge and there is no need to book.

On **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June** visitors can also enjoy a special tour of the exhibition with a guide from the Royal Opera House. The tours take place at 11am and 3pm and are free of charge. Advanced booking is recommended by calling the Mansion on 01473 433554.

The creative fun continues at the Mansion from **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June until Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August** with **Mansion in Miniature**. To help celebrate Ip-Art some of the Mansion's objects have been recreated in miniature by artists. What will visitors discover when they come along? Perhaps a piece of furniture or a famous artwork! Visitors can search for the miniatures alongside the full size object and have a fabulous and free day out at Christchurch Mansion.

## **A Weekend of Music and Saxon Art**

### **Events at Christchurch Mansion & Gallery 3, Ipswich Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

Visitors to Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service can enjoy a whole weekend of fabulous arty fun, absolutely free, this July.

On **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July** at **Gallery 3** in Ipswich Town Hall Galleries, visitors can get arty with the fun **Saxon Art Attack**. This free of charge event will encourage youngsters to put their creative caps on and get arty! Children are encouraged to create their own piece of art which can then be added to a final display of work for everyone to see. Visitors can also enjoy the current Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round exhibition which displays a stunning variety of objects exploring ancient beasts and kings.

The Saxon Art Attack event and Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round exhibition can be enjoyed **free of charge** and there is no need to book. Gallery 3 is open Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 5pm.

The fun continues on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July** with **Music at the Mansion** at **Christchurch Mansion**. Throughout the day visitors can enjoy hearing live classical musicians performing in the beautiful surroundings of the Mansion.

The Music at the Mansion event can be enjoyed free of charge and there is no need to book. The musicians will be performing between 11am and 3pm.

## **Mansion's Constables Visit Warwickshire**

After a spell in the National Portrait Gallery as part of the 'Constable Portraits: The Painter and His Circle' exhibition, four of Christchurch Mansion's Constable paintings will now visit Warwickshire.

The second phase of 'Constable Portraits: The Painter and His Circle' will see the exhibition travel to Compton Verney in Warwickshire from 27<sup>th</sup> June until 6<sup>th</sup> September. The exhibition is the first to explore John Constable's life and art through his portraits and will include nearly 50 works including oil portraits, watercolours and sketches.

Alongside loans from the Tate, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, V & A, Royal Academy, Yale Center for British Art and private collections, the exhibition features four works from Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service, including 'Ladies of the Mason Family' and 'Abram Constable'.

The first phase of the exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery was a resounding success and Sandy Nairne, Director of the National Portrait Gallery said "Generous loans from Institutions such as Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service were invaluable for this significant and popular exhibition. I am very pleased that the exhibition is being shown at Compton Verney so that these delightful works can be viewed by a greater audience."

The second phase of the exhibition at Compton Verney will feature a piece not seen at the National Portrait Gallery, 'Golding Constable's Vegetable Garden' will return to Christchurch Mansion and be replaced in the exhibition by 'Golding Constable's Flower Garden'.

Dr Steven Parissien, Director of Compton Verney said "We are delighted to be bringing Constable's Portraits to the West Midlands. We hope that this will give different audiences the opportunity to see this popular exhibition. Over the summer we will be hosting a range of activities and events relating to the exhibition which will bring added interest for tourists and local alike."

Visitors to Christchurch Mansion can soon see 'Golding Constable's Vegetable Garden' hanging once again in the Wolsey Art Gallery.

#### **Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service**

Our vision is to create a museum service that is a source of pride, inspiration and fun.

#### **Sharon Carter**

Assistant Marketing Officer

01206 282938

[sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk)

To find out more about Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service's bumper summer of events visit [www.ipswich.gov.uk/Museums/](http://www.ipswich.gov.uk/Museums/) or [www.colchestermuseums.org.uk](http://www.colchestermuseums.org.uk)